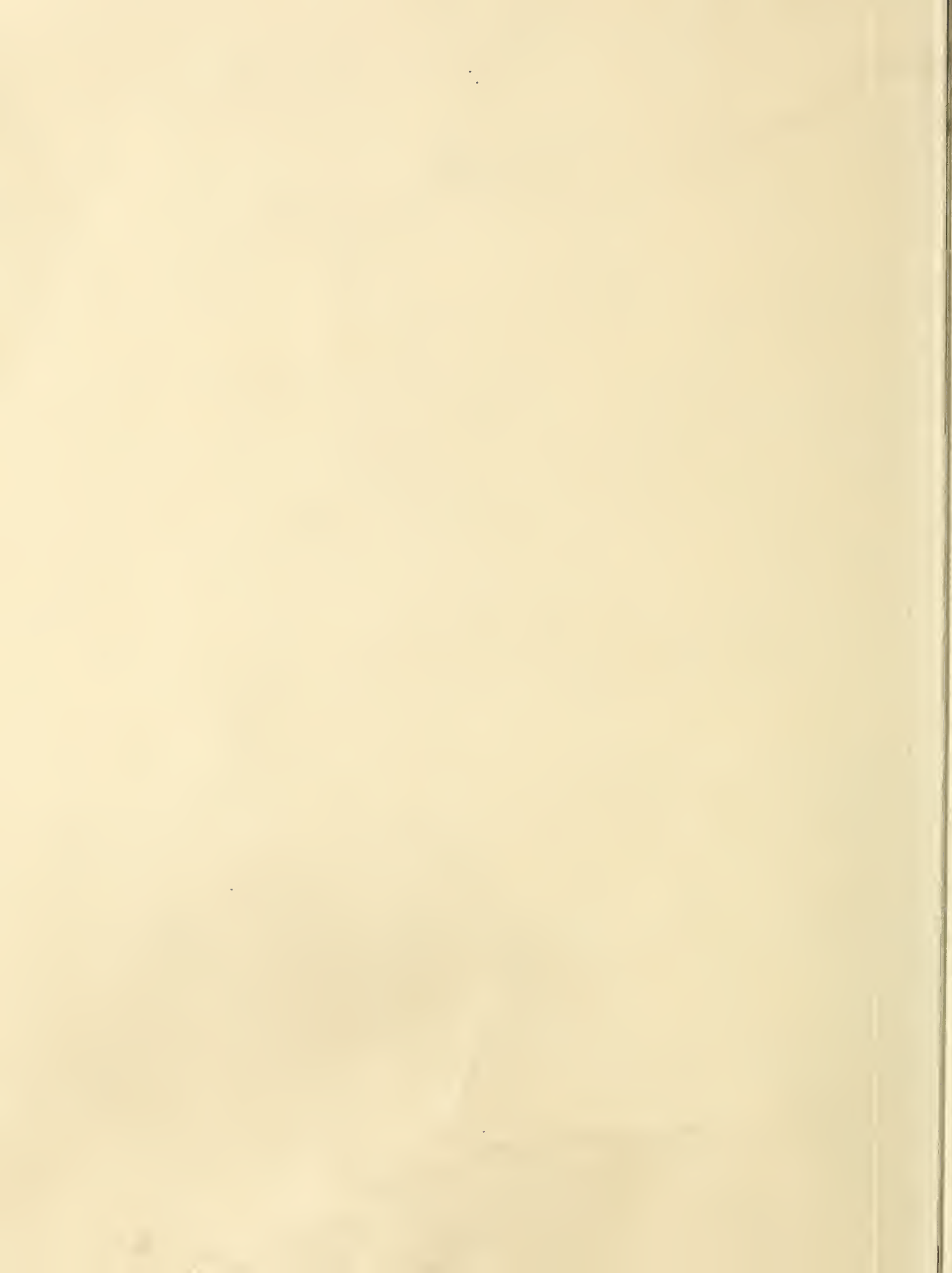


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Effective November 1, 1943

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

TENTATIVE U. S. STANDARDS FOR CLASSES AND GRADES FOR LIVE POULTRY

Specifications for Tentative U.S.
Standards for Individual Birds

U. S. NO. 1 - Must be vigorous and free from external evidence of disease. Must be well-fleshed and fairly well-feathered. Must be soft-meated, if of a class in which soft meat is a requirement. Must be fairly well covered with fat; in this connection, proper consideration should be given to age and sex. May have slight, but not serious defects or serious deformities. Serious scaly legs not permitted. Considerable abdominal fat allowed in fowl.

U. S. NO. 2 - Any edible birds below the quality of U. S. No. 1 Grade. Free from external evidence of disease or other conditions that might render the bird unwholesome for human food. May include healthy birds, of thin flesh, or lacking in fat covering, or only partially feathered. May have serious defects, or serious deformities.

REJECTS - All birds below U. S. No. 2 Grade, or showing external evidence of disease or other conditions, such as extreme emaciation or badly crippled, that might render the bird unwholesome for human food.

Specifications for Tentative U.S.
Wholesale Grades for Live Poultry

U. S. NO. 1 - Each lot of live poultry must contain not less than 90 percent of birds of the quality of U. S. No. 1, the balance to be U. S. No. 2, provided no individual containers in the lot shall have more than 15 percent U. S. No. 2 Grade birds and shall contain no Rejects.

U. S. NO. 2 - Each lot of live poultry shall consist of U. S. No. 2 birds or better and shall contain no Rejects.

NO GRADE - Lots of poultry containing Rejects shall be classed as "No Grade."

NOTE - All poultry having excessive feed in the crops shall be considered "overcropped" and may be subject to dockage. "Excessive" feed shall be interpreted to mean not more than an average of (a) 1 ounce of feed in crops of birds weighing not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, (b) 2 ounces of feed in crops of birds (except turkeys) weighing more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, (c) 3 ounces of feed in crops of turkeys.

TENTATIVE U. S. CLASSES FOR LIVE POULTRY

- Chickens:
- Broilers - Young, soft-meated chickens of either sex with tender skin, smooth bright shanks, and flexible breastbones.
 - Fryers - Young, soft-meated chickens of either sex with tender skin, smooth bright shanks, and flexible breastbones. Maximum weight 4 pounds.
 - Roasters - Young, soft-meated chickens of either sex with tender skin and smooth bright shanks. Breastbones somewhat more rigid than in broilers and fryers but with some remaining flexible cartilage over the end.
 - Capons - Young, soft-meated, unsexed male chickens, showing practically no comb development.
 - Stags - Young male chickens with somewhat toughened flesh and considerable hardening of the breastbones. Combs may be well developed and spurs may show considerable, but not full, development. Stags show, in general, an intermediate condition of flesh and sexual development between roasters and cocks.
 - Fowl - Mature female chickens with hardened breastbones. This includes all female chickens that have produced eggs or that have lost the soft flesh condition characteristic of young chickens. The fact that some fowl may be roasted by special or prolonged cooking is not sufficient grounds for classifying them as roasting chickens.
 - Cocks - Mature male chickens with toughened flesh, and
(Old hardened breastbones.
Roosters)
- Turkeys:
- Young Hen Turkeys - Young, soft-meated female turkeys, with tender skin. (Usually less than 1 year old).
 - Young Tom Turkeys - Young, soft-meated male turkeys, with tender skin. May show slight pouchy condition of breast. (Usually less than 1 year old).
 - Old Hen Turkeys - Mature female turkeys, with toughened flesh. May have coarse or dry skin and patchy areas of surface fat. (Usually more than 1 year old).
 - Old Tom Turkeys - Mature male turkeys, with toughened flesh. (Usually more than 1 year old).

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| Ducks: | Young Ducks | - Young, soft-meated ducks of either sex, bills not completely hardened, easily dented windpipes, feathers may not be fully developed and so may have a somewhat downy appearance. |
| | Old Ducks | - Mature ducks of either sex, with toughened flesh, hardened bills, and hardened windpipes. |
| Geese: | | - Young or old, either sex. |
| Guineas: | Young Guineaes | - Young, soft-meated guineas of either sex. |
| | Old Guineaes | - Mature guineas of either sex with toughened flesh. |
| Squabs: | | - Extra soft-meated, immature pigeons of either sex. |
| Pigeons: | | - Mature pigeons of either sex with toughened flesh. |

EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THE TENTATIVE U. S. STANDARDS
FOR GRADES FOR LIVE POULTRY

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| VIGOROUS | - Birds having bright eyes and healthy appearance. |
| WELL-FLESHED | - Birds which, for their class, show normal flesh covering over breast and thighs. Bones fairly well-covered. |
| FAIRLY WELL-COVERED WITH FAT | - Birds which, for their class, show reasonable amount of fat in feather tracts, and some fat on back. |
| FAIRLY WELL-FEATHERED | - Feathers covering all parts of the body quite thoroughly, except, bare backs permitted if not badly sunburned or scabby. May show a moderate number of pinfeathers, that may be scattered over all parts of the body. |
| DEFORMITIES | - Dented, notched, or slightly crooked breastbones, slightly crooked backs or slightly misshapen wings or legs. |
| SERIOUS DEFORMITIES | - Hunchbacks, crooked breastbones or other definite deformities. |
| SLIGHT DEFECTS | - Scratches, slight bruises, slight breast blisters or calluses, excessive abdominal fat or slight scaly legs. |

SERIOUS DEFECTS

- Large skin bruises, flesh bruises, severe breast blisters, heavy calluses, serious scaly legs, one broken wing bone without fever, or slightly crippled.

UNWHOLESOME

- Evidence of disease or other conditions that would render the bird unsuitable for human food.

These Tentative U. S. Standards for Classes and Grades for Live Poultry supersede, effective November 1, 1943, all U. S. Standards for Classes and Grades for Live Poultry previously issued.

Approved:

C. W. Kitchen

Deputy Director
Food Distribution Administration

SUMMARY OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR TENTATIVE U. S. STANDARDS FOR
CLASSES AND GRADES FOR LIVE POULTRY

Individual Birds

GRADE FACTOR	:	U. S. NO. 1	:	U. S. NO. 2
VIGOR	:	Must be vigorous	:	May show lack of vigor but must be healthy
FREEDOM FROM DISEASE	:	No external evidence	:	No external evidence
FLESHING	:	Fairly well fleshed	:	May be poorly fleshed
CHARACTER OF FLESH	:	Soft-meated (if of a class where soft meat is a requirement)	:	May be poor quality flesh but must be edible
FAT	:	Fairly well covered considering age and sex	:	May be lacking in fat covering
FEATHERING	:	Fairly well feathered	:	May be only partially feathered
DEFECTS	:	Slight defects permitted	:	Serious defects permitted
DEFORMITIES	:	Slight deformities permitted	:	Serious deformities permitted
SCALY LEG	:	Slight scaly leg permitted	:	Serious scaly leg permitted
ABDOMINAL FAT IN FOWL	:	Considerable allowed	:	Permitted